

The Hong Kong Daily Press.

No. 8715

號五十五七八第

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27th, 1885.

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號七十二一十一英華

PRICE 32½ PER MONTH

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

November 25, YANGTZE, British steamer, 814
Schultz, Shanghai 23rd November, Gun-
ner—SIEMENS & Co.
November 26, CANTON, British str., 1,110, Bal-
berie, Whampoa 25th November, Ballast—
JARDINE, MATTHESON & Co.
November 26, PHRA CHULAHOM KHAO, Brit-
ish steamer, 1,012, H. Lightwood, Wuha 21st
November, Rice—YUEN FAT HONG.
November 26, SIRE, British steamer, 1,110, A-
Scotland, Saigon 21st November, Rice and
General—ADAMSON, BELL & Co.
November 26, LA GALLISONNIÈRE, French frig.,
Fleurais, Amoy 25th November.
November 26, DANUBE, British steamer, 561, G.
Andersen, Swatow 25th November, Gener-
al—YUEN FAT HONG.
November 26, TRIOMPHE, French ironclad,
Dapout, Yokohama 17th November.

CLEARANCES.

AT THE HARBOR MASTER'S OFFICE.

Papa, German bark, for Havre.
Canton, British str., for Shanghai.
Oceanic, British str., for Yokohama.
Diamant, British str., for Amoy.
Dona Juan, Spanish str., for Amoy.
Lora, British str., for Saigon.
Clers, British str., for Saigon.
Norway, Norwegian bark, for Singapore.
Bellona, German str., for Shanghai.

DEPARTURES.

November 26, NAMOA, British str., for Swatow.
November 26, ELLEN, British bark, for Sand-
akan.
November 26, INGRAHAM, German steamer, for
Swatow.
November 26, OCEANIC, British str., for San
Francisco.
November 26, DON JUAN, Spanish steamer, for
Manila.
November 26, DILMANTZ, British steamer, for
Manila.
November 26, WAH YOUNG, British str., for
Hoihow.
November 26, GRAFTON, British str., for Kuch-
nato.
November 26, GLENCOE, British steamer, for
Shanghai.
November 26, GLENLYON, British steamer, for
Yokohama.
November 26, YANGTZE, British steamer, for
Whampoa.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.
Per Yantze, str. from Shanghai—Messrs.
C. W. Storck, J. Lawrence, A. von Gouwer,
and Paul Hoffmann, and 53 Chinese.
Per Sib, str., from Saigon—120 Chinese.
Per Dona, str., from Swatow—59 Chinese.
DEPARTED.
Per Ningpo, str., for Shanghai—Messrs. A.
Gutzeit and A. Wasserfall.
Per Oceanic, str., for Yokohama—Messrs. E.
Hancock, Frank T. Tong, and C. Robinson.
For San Francisco—Mrs. Goo, Whittall
and child, and 120 Chinese.

REPORTS.

The British steamer Sib reports left Saigon
on the 21st November, and had strong N.E.
and E.W. winds and squally heavy sea through-
out.

The British steamer Yantze reports left
Shanghai on the 22nd November, and had moderate
N.E. winds with overcast and fine weather throughout.

The British steamer Dona reports left Swatow
on the 25th November, and had moderate
N.E. monsoons and fine weather throughout. In-
Swatow str. Chi-yuen and Chintung.

The British steamer Phra Chulahom Kha
reports left Wuha on the 21st November, and had
strong N.E. wind from Vido to Breaker
Point; from thence to port light winds and over-
cast weather.

VESSELS ARRIVED IN EUROPE FROM PORTS
IN CHINA, JAPAN AND MANILA.
(Per last Mail's Advice.)

Iphigenia (s.)—Shanghai Oct. 6
St. Domingo (s.)—Manila Oct. 6
Cassandra (s.)—Yokohama Oct. 13
Bellophon (s.)—Shanghai Oct. 13
Ching Wo (s.)—Shanghai Oct. 16

VESSELS EXPECTED AT HONGKONG.
(Corrected to Date.)

Florence—Cardiff June 9
Mohaw—New York June 11
Locis—New York June 16
Undine—New York Cardiff June 24
C. P. Sergeant—Penarth July 13
Great Surgeon—Cardiff July 18
Caradoc—Cardiff July 18
John Currier—Penarth July 23
Hecla—Cardiff Aug. 12
Willow—Anton—Cardiff Aug. 14
Aghan—Glasgow Aug. 16
Ellen—Rath—Cardiff Aug. 17
Eliza—Cardiff Aug. 27
Argon—New York Aug. 28
McNair—Penarth Sept. 2
Susser (s.)—Cardiff Sept. 7
Augusta—Cardiff Sept. 7
Decima (s.)—Cardiff Sept. 23
Hesperia (s.)—Hamburg Oct. 1
Granite State—New York Oct. 2
Harrington—Cardiff Oct. 10
Dundee—Antwerp or London Oct. 14
Aspasia (s.)—London Oct. 14
Lee Sang (s.)—Glasgow Oct. 14
Stralsund—St. Nazaria Oct. 23
Eros—London Oct. 28

L'INDEPENDANCE BELGE.
Le meilleur marché, le plus répandu et la
meilleur vente des grands journaux européens en
langue française.

EDITION QUOTIDIENNE
3 Mois, 15. 6 Mois, 18. 30 Mois, 60.

EDITION HOMMADORAIE
dition d'outre-mer
(destinée spécialement aux pays hors d'Europe)
composée de HUIT FASCE GRAND FORMAT, ren-
tournant tous les faits de les événements de la
semaine. Recommandée par les chambres de commerce
étrangères, litigieuses et maritimes de toutes les
capitales d'Europe. Sport, mode, commerce
Romance, fictions, sujets des principaux au-
teurs contemporains, &c.

PRÉT D'ADMISSION:
Six Mois, 16 francs. Douze Mois, 30 francs.

CONDITIONS:
Toute demande d'admission doit être sou-
pportée d'un acompte sur la quote-part de la
rente.

Bruxelles, Paris ou Londres. Les abonne-
ments commencent le 1er ou 16 de chaque mois.

Envoyé gratuit de deux numéros spéciaux à
toute personne qui en adressera la demande
à l'administration, 9, Rue d'Argente, Bruxelles.

Tout abonne d'au moins 6 mois sera présent

à titre de prime, le journal jusqu'au début de
sa période d'abonnement.

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INTIMATION.

JUST LANDED—A Large Supply of
PURE CONFECTIONERY,
Comprising—
PINK, WHITE AND BROWN SUGAR CANDY,
CHOCOLATE CREAMS, DESSERT CHOCOLATE,
NOUGAT,
TOFFEE, BARTLEY SUGAR, LEMON DROPS,
PRALINES A LA ROSE,
CONFITS, AND SUGARED ALMONDS in great
Variety,
MIXED SWEETS,
CRYSTALLIZED APRICOTS, STRAWBERRIES,
GREENGAGE, CHERRIES, &c.,
MELT FRUITS,
CARLSBAD AND ETRAS PLUMS.

A. S. WATSON & CO.
THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.
Hongkong, 25th November, 1885.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All letters for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.

Advertisements and Subscriptions which are not ordered for a fixed period will be continued until notice is given.

Orders for extra copies of the Daily Press should be sent before 11 a.m. on the day of publication. After that hour the supply is limited.

Communications on Editorial matter should be addressed "The Editor," and those on business "The Manager," and not to individuals by name.

Correspondents are requested to forward their name and address with communications addressed to the Editor, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, NOVEMBER 27TH, 1885.

THE Hongkong Steam Laundry is at present in a critical position. The shareholders are considering whether the establishment shall be closed or not. Receipts have thus far failed to cover the expenses, and the Company's floating capital is exhausted. The view of some of the shareholders seems to be that after more than two months' unsuccessful efforts to continue the experiment longer, while others apparently think it should not be abandoned without further effort. At the meeting held on Wednesday there were not sufficient shares represented to allow of a definite decision being come to, but a very useful discussion took place, the report of which places the public in possession of most of the material facts connected with the position and working of the laundry. Although the receipts have not yet overtaken the expenditure, it appears that the business is a steadily increasing one, and the Secretary has unbounded confidence in the ultimate success of the concern. Making a considerable allowance for Mr. Hunter's sanguine temperament, it will seem that his view of the case is in the main supported by reason and fact. In February last the share collection of clothes amounted to 25,000 pieces; last month it had risen to 40,400 pieces. The collection from the harbour remains about the same. With this very moderate increase in the business the monthly loss has fallen in round numbers from \$800 to \$450. The total collection last month, including that from the shipping and the shore, was \$2,216; in June last, when the armed cruisers were here, the collection afloat rose to 29,777, and with the shore collection the total reached 67,181 pieces. This brought the loss down to \$180 only. It is quite clear therefore that the business would be a profitable one, provided enough work could be got to keep the laundry running full time. And the amount of work is in fact steadily increasing, but the shareholders are confronted with the fact that their ready cash is exhausted and that without further capital they cannot go on. The question is whether the sinking of more capital in the affair, and, if so, how that capital is to be raised. With regard to the first point, Mr. HURLEY says he is negotiating with the Hongkong Hotel and the Pacific Mail, and that if contracts are secured to do the washing of these two concerns the amount of work will at once reach the paying point. More than this, the Secretary says that he has been able to reduce the expenses by some \$800 per month. This itself will almost wipe off the monthly loss, and in view of the increase in the shore business, to abandon the undertaking at this point, when success is just beginning to dawn, would be very much like slipping off the topmost rung but one of the ladder. An appeal to the public will probably not result in an immediate large increase in the support given, for the public is, as a rule, a very callous body, but as the Company goes on, demonstrating all the time the superiority of its work over that of the Chinese dhabas, self-interest will gradually bring more customers, until in the course of a short time the Company will possess the bulk of the business of the place. Success, we have no doubt, can be achieved, but it has to be worked for and will take some little time. Other laundries elsewhere have failed, it is true, but we do not therefore regard the case of the Hongkong Laundry should take some time to become a success, seeing that none of those engaged in the business had any previous experience in it. The Secretary pointed out on Wednesday many matters in which he had been able to make more economical arrangements on behalf of the Company, and which, as he said, he had only been able to work out with the lapse of time. But what ever promise of ultimate success there may be, the fact remains that if the Company is to continue its operations more capital must be raised. \$15,000 is the sum mentioned. The Secretary proposes that a new company should be formed with capital to this amount to lease the concern from the present company, and work it on the same lines. To this it is replied that if it would pay a new Company to take over the busi-

ness it would pay the old Company to continue it itself, provided a little more capital could be obtained to defray current expenses. The formation of a new Company in order to raise such a small amount as \$15,000 appears rather a clumsy device. A more convenient means would be to issue preferential shares of a small denomination, giving the present shareholders the option of taking up the whole of these if they wished and offering to the public only whatever number might not be taken up. The public, we believe, would readily subscribe for such shares if any were offered. Be this as it may, however, it would be a thousand pities to see the laundry closed. In almost every considerable European settlement in Asia attempts have been made to introduce a sanitary system of cleansing clothes, but hitherto the dhabas have proved to strong to allow European competition in their business to obtain a footing, or perhaps it would be more correct to say that the promoters of European laundries have been too half-hearted in their enterprises to succeed. The fact that so many laundries have been started beokens a general recognition of the desirability if not the necessity of such establishments. It remains for Hongkong to show that they can be made a success from a commercial point of view, as well as with regard to considerations of health and quality of workmanship. Patience and perseverance are all that is necessary to attain this end.

The death of Alfonso XII., King of Spain, though somewhat sudden, has not been altogether unexpected. When the last mail left Europe, His Majesty was known to be in poor health, and the *London Figaro* said that it had been stated, with some show of authority, that his lungs were actually affected, and that extreme care on his part would be necessary if he hoped to prolong his life to any considerable extent. Reuter tells us that the cause of the King's death was dysentery, but that may have been the immediate cause only. King Alfonso had not quite completed his twenty-eighth year, having been born on the 28th November, 1857, and he reigned nearly eleven years. He leaves two infant daughters, of whom the older, Princesa María de las Mercedes, four years of age, will presumably succeed him, with the widow, Queen María, as Queen-Regent. It is, however, not impossible that Don Carlos may make another bid for the Throne. He still has his followers in the Iberian Peninsula, and has not, if report may be relied on, resigned all hopes of some day gaining the coveted Crown. In any case it is a pity that at a time when politics are unsettled in Spain the country should be saddled with a long regency. We hope that rival politicians will not seize the opportunity to involve the nation in another civil war. Since the revolution of 1868, when ISABELLA II. was forced to resign, several experiments in government have been made, the only one showing any stability being the restored monarchy under Alfonso. If Soñor DEL CASTILLO, the present Prince Minister, is a strong man he may succeed in overcoming the opposition that is likely to arise, and in holding firm the succession for the little Princess MARIA.

M. Blaneschi, Deputy for Cochin-Chin, was to leave for France by *Misagari*, Mar. times steamer on the 20th instant.

The rice crop of the Philippine province of Bicol has, says the *Philippine Star*, almost completely destroyed by the extreme dryness of the season and the ravages of locusts.

The Shén-pao says that Korea has memorialized the Emperor of China, requesting an army to sent to that country, to protect it from an invasion by her powerful neighbour.

We learn from the Agents (Mosses, Butterfield & Swire) that the Ocean Steamship Company's steamer *Hector*, from Liverpool, left Singapore yesterday morning for this port.

Captain W. N. Derville, late commander of the river-steamer *Hawke*, died at the Hongkong Hotel yesterday morning after a long painful illness. The funeral took place at the Protestant Cemetery yesterday afternoon.

According to a telegram from Tianjin, published in the *Shén-pao* of the 20th November, His Excellency Li Hung-chang arrived at Port Arthur on the evening of the 19th November, to inspect the ironclads recently arrived from Germany.

In the programme of the Hongkong Races, 1886, published yesterday the clause of this season 1885-6 was inadvertently omitted after the words "Subscription Griffins" in the conditions in the 4th and 7th races on the second day.

The Chinese *Mercury* of the 20th inst. says:

"An express has been issued this afternoon, advising the Portuguese community of Shanghai to avail themselves of the opportunity of sending a telegram to Lisbon, urging the necessity of sending a fleet of ships to China at once. The party who circulated the news suggests a meeting of the most influential members of the Portuguese community here should be called to consider the matter."

The French ironclad *La Galissonnière*, Captain Ferialis flag-ship of Admiral Léspes, arrived here yesterday morning from Shanghai, and lay down at the pier of the 25th inst. On anchoring he exchanged salutes with the Chinese gun-boats, which fire canister, and other available weapons. They then concealed themselves among the trees, &c., around the village.

As was expected, the Chinese turned up in strong force, well armed, and at once set to work to loot the houses.

The intervening combat was fierce, but the Chinese were beaten off, and the ironclad took

the field.

After the battle, the ironclad took up her position in the river, and the Chinese

retreated to the hills, and the ironclad followed.

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INTIMATIONS.

KEATING'S BONBONS OR WORM TABLETS, A PASTRY VERBAL, SUPPLEMENT, both in appearance and taste, furnishing a most agreeable method of administering the only certain remedy for INTESTINAL OR THREAD WORMS. It is a perfectly soft and mild preparation, and is especially adapted for Children. Sold by Bottey all Chemists. [1625]

CUTLER, PALM E R & Co. Wine Shippers. Of LONDON, BORDEAUX, CALCUTTA, BOMBAY, MADRAS, LACORE, KURRACHEE, &c.

Their Representatives in China—MORRIS, JARDINE, MATTHESON & Co., Hongkong; SIMSEN & CO., and LANE, CRAWFORD & Co., Shanghai. Call attention to some of the items consigned to their care by that well-known house—

CLARET, Mouton, Larose, St. Julien, &c., in Quarts & Pints.

SHERRY, Selected White Seal and Amorous, MANZANILLA.

These Sherries are also shipped in Jars. INVALIDS' PORT WINE—recommended.

SCOTCH WHISKY, free from fusel oil.

IRISH WHISKY—the best.

GENUINE COGNAC of several qualities distinguished by number of * * *

Prices and List of other items on application to either of the above Firms. [1998]

To maintain the high standard quality that our well-known FOUR STAR COGNAC has for many years been celebrated for we regret that our friends in Hongkong, owing to depreciation of Silver cannot offer it for less than \$12, allowing discount to resellers. We are confident that British Residents in China would prefer that we should maintain the reputation for quality and value of our Cognac, and that the STAR quality is held by our friends MESSRS. JARDINE, MATTHESON & CO., MESSRS. SIMSEN & CO. for Sale, who also to offer several Wines of our Ships. [1630]

CUTLER, PALM E R & Co.

NOTICE.

PRINTING OF EVERY DESCRIPTION AT THE "DAILY PRESS" OFFICE.

Particular attention is given at the Establishment to COMMERCIAL and GENERAL JOB PRINTING, every description of which is executed IN THE BEST STYLE and at SUCH PRICE as will bear.

FAVOURABLE COMPARISON WITH ANY IN THE EAST.

"DAILY PRESS" OFFICE, HONGKONG.

WINTER TIME TABLE.

THE KOWLOON FERRY.

STEAM LAUNCH "MORNING STAR".

Runs Daily a Ferry Boat between FUDDELL'S WHARF and Tsim-Tsui, at the following hours:—This Time-Table will take effect from the 20th October, 1885.

WEEK DAYS. SUNDAYS.

Leaves Leaves Leaves Leaves Leaves

Kowloon Kowloon Kowloon Kowloon Kowloon

6.00 A.M. 7.00 A.M. 9.00 A.M. 12.00 P.M. 1.00 P.M.

8.00 " 8.30 " 7.30 " 10.30 " 12.30 "

8.30 " 10.00 " 8.00 " 10.30 " 12.30 "

10.45 " 12.30 " 10.30 " 12.30 " 1.00 P.M.

12.45 " 1.00 " 1.30 " 2.30 " 2.00 "

1.30 " 2.00 " 2.30 " 3.00 " 3.00 "

2.30 " 3.00 " 3.30 " 4.00 " 4.00 "

3.30 " 4.00 " 4.15 " 4.30 " 4.30 "

4.15 " 4.30 " 4.50 " 5.10 " 5.10 "

4.30 " 4.50 " 5.00 " 5.50 " 5.50 "

5.25 " 5.50 " 6.00 " 6.40 " 6.40 "

6.15 " 6.45 " 7.00 " 7.40 " 7.40 "

7.00 " * There will be no Launch on Monday and Friday, on account of coaling.

The above Time-Table will be strictly adhered to, except under unavoidable circumstances. In case of illness of weather, due notice will be given of any stoppages. [33]

PORT LAND CEMENT. J. B. WHITE & BROS. Sole Agents for China. HOLLIDAY-WISE & Co. Hongkong, 11th April, 1883. [1633]

THE Undersigned have been appointed Sole Agents for the Sale of the Goods in Hongkong and China, by Messrs. J. & J. H. NICHOLSON and Messrs. DAVID CONSBY & Sons, Architects. ARNHOLD, KARBERG & Co. Hongkong, January, 1887. [351]

CHINA OVERLAND TRADE REPORT. COMMERCIAL JOURNAL FOR CHINA, JAPAN, &c. &c.

Published at the Office of the Hongkong Daily on the Morning of the Departure of the English Mail.

contains the most recent and fullest Trade Intelligence.

REPORTS AND WITNESSES OF COMPANIES.

THE LATEST TELEGRAMS, together with the Political and General News of the Fortnight.

The "Trade Report" has a large circulation in Hongkong, the Ports of China and Japan, the Philippines, Straits Settlements, &c. &c.

THE "CEYLON OBSERVER." PUBLISHED DAILY.

THE Oldest and Largest Paper in the Colony, with a Circulation far ahead of any other local print.

THE "CEYLON JOURNAL" that receives regular SPECIAL TELEGRAMS of Mail and of other important Intelligence from Bombay, Madras, Ceylon, &c. besides REUTER'S SERVICE from EUROPE, &c.

Subscription, with Postage, to China and Japan, 10s. in advance.

THE WEEKLY "CEYLON OBSERVER," WITH SUPPLEMENTS containing all Telegraphic Intelligence.

Subscription for China, Japan, Straits, &c. 10s. per annum, in advance. Received a "Hongkong Daily Press" Office. [1979-1]

THE CHUNG NGOI SAN PO (Chinese Daily Press). PUBLISHED DAILY.

Is the best medium for Advertising among the Native Community.

It has been established upwards of TWENTY YEARS, and is the only Chinese newspaper of the Chinese press in the Sino-Chinese.

It is carefully edited by an experienced Chinese Scholar, and contains Factual and Reliable Commercial Intelligence.

For Advertising, see the Office, Wyndham Street, Hongkong; or from the different Agents.

"JAPAN GAZETTE" YOKOHAMA.

HAVING been appointed Agents in Hongkong and SOUTH CHINA for the Japan Gazette, "Japan Gazette Summary" and "Hong List" Orders for Subscriptions and Advertisements will be received at this Office.

Hongkong Daily Press Office, Hongkong, 23rd May 1877.

FOR SALE.

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CHAS. H. E. D. S. E. O. B'S CHAMPAGNE, 1880, WHITE SEAL. A PASTRY VERBAL, SUPPLEMENT, both in appearance and taste, furnishing a most agreeable method of administering the only certain remedy for INTESTINAL OR THREAD WORMS. It is a perfectly soft and mild preparation, and is especially adapted for Children. Sold by all Chemists. [1625]

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FOR SALE AT WHOLESALE PRICES.

SHERRY, SACCONES "MANZANILLA" and LIGHT DRY; Bottled by Sir FRED PERKINS, London.

SCOTCH BOTTLES by D. STUART.

CLARET, "SCOTCH" and "GRENADINE."

PORT CLARET, "GRENADINE."

SHERRY, "MELBOURNE" and "SYDNEY & MELBOURNE."

BOMBAY via STRAITS.

YOKOHAMA via NAGASAKI, &c.

SHANGHAI via AMOY.

SWATOW and BANGKOK.

AMOY.

TO BE LET.

TO BE LET.

N. O. 4, RICHMOND TERRACE.

WHISKY "ISLE OF BUTE" "DAGUAYU" Bottled by MACKIE & CO., Glasgow.

GUINNESS'S EXTRA PLAT & CO.

STOUT, Bottled by DUBLIN STOUT CO.

BASS & CO., PLAT & CO.

BEER, "KRONENBOURG" Lager by DUBLIN BREWERY CO.

SALES, 100 lbs. per barrel, 1,000 lbs. per H. B. CO.

DRILLING, PLANTING, LATTES & CO., LONDON.

PAINTS, OILS, and VARNISHES—Gould.

LAUNDRY, "MEDOC" "SCOTCH" "LAROGUE" "MELBOURNE" "AMOY" "BANGKOK" "AMOY."

SHANGHAI via AMOY.

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B-X-T-R-A-C-T.

BARBARA TOBELLI'S LAMENT FOR HER HUSBAND EDOCOLE STROZZI, MURDERED AT PERUGIA BY THE ORDER OF DUKE ALFONSO I.

Extinguished in Love's torch, broken his bough,
His arrows, quiver, all ampler,
Now that fierce Death hath foiled the forest tree
Under whose shade I slept, nor dreamt of woe.

Al, wherefore may not I, I also, go
Down to that narrow tomb where destiny
Hath laid my lord, whom scarce ten dayz
Lewd in holiest bower before this blow?

I'm fain with my heart's fire that frosty chill
Lured, and with these tears motion his clay,

Stirring to quick new life that dust to cold;

And afterwards I'd fain, dauntless and bold,
Show him to One who broke Lovelands, and say

Such power had Love! Monster, thou couldst but
Kill!

JOHN ADEINGTON SYMONDS, in Tiv.

THE GHOST'S TOUCH.

BY WILHELM COLLINS.

FIRST PART.

He was by this time convinced that the poor creature was in no condition to be permitted to go out without some one to take care of her. From motives of humanity he was resolved on making the attempt to communicate with her friends.

III.

The lady left the gardens by the nearest gate, stopping to lower her veil before she turned into the busy thoroughfare which leads to Kensington. Advancing a little way, but in the searching light of day, neither seen as a vision, nor heard as a voice—revealing itself to mortal knowledge through the sense which is least easily self-deceived: the sense that feels.

The record of this event will of necessity produce conflicting impressions. It will raise in some minds, the doubt which reason asserts; it will invigorate, in other minds, the hope which faith justifies; and it will leave the terrible question of the destinies of man, where centuries of vain investigation have left it—in the dark.

Having undertaken in the present narrative to lead the way along a succession of events, the writer attempts no more. It is not part of his duty to follow modern examples by thrusting himself and his opinions on the public view. He returns to the shadow from which he has emerged, and the address was added in pencil: "Mr. John Zant, Purley's Hotel."

The mistress made her appearance. Mr. Rayburn heartily wished himself out of the house again, the moment he saw her. The ways in which it is possible to cultivate the social virtues are more numerous and more varied than is generally supposed. This lady's way had apparently accustomed her to meet her fellow-creatures on the hard ground of justice without mercy. Something in her eyes, when she looked at Lucy, said: "I wonder whether that child gets as much punishment as she deserves?"

"Do you wish to see the rooms which I have to let?" she began.

Mr. Rayburn at once stated the object of his visit—as clearly, as civilly, and as concisely as a man could do it. He was conscious (he added) that he had been guilty, perhaps, of an act of intrusion. The master of the mistress of the house showed that she entirely agreed with him. He suggested, however, that his motive might excuse him. The mistress's manner changed, and asserted a difference of opinion.

"I only know the lady whom you mention," she said, "as a person of the highest respectability, in delicate health. She has taken my first floor apartments, with excellent references; and she gives remarkably little trouble. I have no claim to interfere with her proceedings, and no reason to doubt that she is capable of taking care of herself."

Mr. Rayburn unsuccessfully attempted to say "I am sorry."

Lucy tossed up her ball, and Lucy's father opened his newspaper. He had not been reading for more than ten minutes, when he felt a familiar little hand laid on his knee.

"Tired of playing?" he inquired—with his eyes still on the newspaper.

"I'm frightened, paper."

He looked up directly. The child's pale face startled him. He took her on his knee and kissed her. "You oughtn't to be frightened, Lucy, when I am with you," he said gently. "What is it?" He looked out of the window as he spoke, and saw a little dog among the trees. "Is it the dog?" he asked.

Lucy answered: "It's not the dog—it's the house." "Has she said anything to you?" Mr. Rayburn inquired.

"No." "What has she done to frighten you?" The child put her arm round her father's neck. "Whisper, papa," she said; "I'm afraid of her hearing us. I think she's mad."

"Why do you think so, Lucy?"

"She came near to me. I thought she was going to say something. She seemed to be ill."

"Well! And what then?"

"She looked at me."

There, Lucy found herself at a loss how to express what she had to say next—and took refuge in silence.

"Nothing very wonderful, so far," he further suggested.

"Yes, papa—but she didn't seem to see me when she looked."

"Well, and what happened then?"

"The lady was frightened—and that frightened me. I think the child repeated possibly, she's mad."

It occurred to Mr. Rayburn that the lady might be blind. He rose at once to set the doubt at rest. "Wait here," he said, "and I'll come back to you."

But Lucy clung to him with both hands; Lucy declared that she was afraid to be frightened. Lucy, when I am with you," he said gently. "What is it?" He looked out of the window as he spoke, and saw a little dog among the trees. "Is it the dog?" he asked.

Without waiting for a reply, she led the way to the stairs. Mr. Rayburn and Lucy followed. They were just beginning the ascent to the first floor, when the child lay down on the floor, and called to her lodger over their heads.

"Take care what you say to this man; Mrs. Zant! He thinks you're mad."

Mrs. Zant turned round on the landing and looked at him. Not a word fell from her lips. She suffered, she feared, in silence. Something in the sad submission of her face touched the springs of innocent pity in Lucy's heart. The child burst out crying.

That artless expression of sympathy drew Mrs. Zant down the few steps, which separated her from Lucy. "May I kiss your dear little girl?" she said to Mr. Rayburn. The landlady, standing on the mat below, expressed her opinion of the value of below, as compared with a sound method of treating young persons in tears. If that child were mine," she remarked, "I would give her something to cry for."

In the meantime, Mrs. Zant led the way to her room.

The first words she spoke showed that the landlady had succeeded but too well in prejudicing her against Mr. Rayburn. "Will you let me ask your child?" she said to him, "why you think me mad?"

He met this strange request with a firm answer. "You don't know yet what I really think. Will you give me a minute's attention?"

"No," she said positively. "The child pitied me. I want to speak to the child. What did you see me do in the gardens, my dear, that surprised you?" Lucy turned uneasily to her father. Mrs. Zant persisted.

"I first saw you by yourself, and then I saw you with your father," she went on. "When I came near to you, did I look very oddly?" as if I didn't see you at all." Lucy hesitated again, and Mr. Rayburn interposed.

"You are confusing my little girl," he said. "Allow me to answer your questions—or excuse me if I leave you."

There was something in his look, or in his tone that master'd her. She put her hand

to her head. "I don't think I'm fit for it," she answered vacantly. "My courage has been sorely tried already. If I can get a little rest and sleep, you may find a different person. I am lost a great deal by myself, and I have reasons for trying to compose my mind. Can I see you to-morrow?"

Mr. Rayburn heard her talking to herself. "Did I tell it again?" she said, as if perplexed by some doubt that ached or grieved her. After a while, her arms rose slowly, and opened with a gentle caressing action—an embrace strangely offered to the empty air! "No," she said to herself sadly, after waiting a moment. "More perhaps when to-morrow comes—no more to-day." She looked up at the clear blue sky. "The beautiful sunlight! the marvellous sunlight!" she murmured. "I should have died if it had happened in the dark."

Once more she called to the dog; and once more she walked slowly away.

"When do you expect to see your brother-in-law again?" he said.

"I don't know," she answered. "I should like to see him—he is so kind to me."

She turned aside to take leave of Lucy.

"Good-bye, my little friend. If you live to grow up, I hope you will never be such a miserable woman as I am." She suddenly looked round at Mr. Rayburn, as though he had spoken downstair's.

But he had no authority to execute, or even to consent to accept his advice. As a last resource, he ventured on an allusion to the relative of whom she had spoken downstairs.

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